

CLASS TITLE:**DENTAL HYGIENIST**

Class Code: 02787200

Pay Grade: 15A

EO: C

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To assist the Public Health Dentist in conducting dental health programs throughout the State involving the care of children's teeth, including oral examinations, preventive care, and dissemination of information on proper dental hygiene; to assist local dentists at clinics throughout the State by providing prophylaxes, scaling, and fluoride application services, and to perform general dental assistant duties in such clinics; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Specific assignments and instructions are given by the Public Health Dentist; supervision is exercised through periodic review of such assignments or instructions for conformance to accepted dental practices, procedures, and standards; when assigned, works under the functional supervision of local dentists in various clinics throughout the State.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Usually none.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To assist the Public Health Dentist in conducting dental health programs throughout the state involving the care of children's teeth, including oral examinations, preventive care, and dissemination of information on proper dental hygiene, on behalf of local school departments, health agencies, and other community organizations.

To give lectures, supplemented by films and related literature, on proper dental hygiene to school to school children.

To assist in the dental inspection of school children, including the establishment of referral and follow-up systems for such dental care.

To assist the Public Health Dentist in providing teachers, nurses, school administrators and other personnel in local school departments, health agencies, and other community organizations with dental health material and information on modern dental preventive methods and procedures and adequate dental standards.

Under the general direction of the Public Health Dentist and the functional supervision of local dentists, to assist at locally conducted clinics by providing prophylaxes, scaling and fluoride application services.

As required, to perform general dental assistant duties in such clinics.

To maintain records and prepare reports.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the principles, practices, and techniques of oral hygiene and dental examination; a thorough knowledge of the dental instruments used in performing oral prophylaxes and scaling, a thorough knowledge of and skill in the use of the dental application of fluoride solutions to children's teeth; a familiarity with clinical procedures as applied to children's dental clinics; the ability to assist in the planning and execution of dental health programs involving preventive dentistry for children; the ability to perform field work involving lectures and demonstrations on oral hygiene before school children and other interested individuals or groups within

the community; the ability to prepare and present educational information either orally or in writing; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a senior high school; and a recognized school for dental hygiene.

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment in a responsible position in a dental health care program involving the application of the techniques of oral hygiene and the presentation of material and information on proper preventive measures.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Licensure as a dental hygienist by the Rhode Island Department of Health and such licensure must be maintained as a condition of employment.

Class Revised: December 22, 1985

Editorial Review: 3/15/03